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SC-11214/68 KH
16 October 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Current Intelligence

SUBJECT : Preliminary Comments on Mission **(3230)**
Flown on 10 October 1963

1. This mission covered central Tibet including the major areas of Lhasa, Zhigatse, and Gyantse. Most of the targets included in this mission [redacted]

[redacted] No significant new items of intelligence were disclosed. This photography supports our estimate that the Chinese military situation in this area is not significantly different than it was about a year ago.

Airfields

2. Two airfields were photographed. One at Nagchu Dzong which is unserviceable, and the main airfield serving Lhasa, about 55 miles to the north. No aircraft were in evidence. This supports our estimate that the Chinese have not brought tactical aircraft into Tibet.

Military Installations

3. Major military barracks areas in the Lhasa, Zhigatse and Gyantse area were again photographed. No significant changes were noted [redacted]. The Yatung area in the Chumbi Valley area showed no significant changes since the previous coverage. It is apparent that no build-up has taken place in this area, which is one of prime concern to the Indians.

Transportation

4. A convoy of over two hundred trucks was observed moving south toward Lhasa from the Nagchu Dzong area. Although this is the largest convoy noted in photography to date, it is not regarded as unusual since all forces in Tibet must be supplied by truck from rail terminals 1200 to 1400 miles from Lhasa.

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5. Road construction about 27 miles southwest of Tingri Dzong was noted. This road will eventually continue on into Katmandu.

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The section photographed, which is believed to be trafficable, is apparently being improved.

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PLANNED OPERATIONAL FACTORS

FILE NUMBER

MISSION NUMBER 3229

MISSION NARRATIVE

DISTANCE

25X1A

TIME

10:43

POINT OF DEPARTURE

25X1A

POINT OF LANDING

1157 NM

DISTANCE OVER DENIED TERRITORY

3+19

TIME OVER DENIED TERRITORY

1345

TAKE OFF TIME

350

A/R ON-LAND

70 M

HI CONE ALT.

70 M

ENTRY ALTITUDE

70 M

PROFILE

EXIT ALTITUDE

REMARKS